

51st Avenue and Camelback Road Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site — August 2021



Installing groundwater monitoring wells at the 51st Avenue and Camelback Road WQARF Site.

What is happening in my community?

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is investigating a contaminated site near you. We added the 51st Avenue and Camelback Road Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site to the WQARF Registry on Aug. 18, 2021, with an Eligibility & Evaluation Score of 29 out of 120. Our investigation will help us clean up the site to protect public health and the environment.

What is a WQARF site?

WQARF sites contain contaminated soil, groundwater or surface water. ADEQ investigates WQARF site contamination sources, potentially responsible parties, and cleanup methods, all while informing affected communities. To learn more about the WQARF program, visit azdeq.gov/WQARF.

Where is the site?

The site is located in Phoenix and Glendale. Investigation boundaries are from Bethany Home Road (north) to

Indian School Road (south) and 43rd Avenue (east) to 59th Avenue (west). The map (See Fig.1) shows where we found groundwater contamination above Arizona Aquifer Water Quality Standards. This area may change as our investigation continues.

What has ADEQ found at the site?

In 2019, we detected groundwater contamination on the northwest corner

of 51st Avenue and Camelback Road. During the Preliminary Investigation, we drilled wells and sampled groundwater and soil vapor near this intersection. The results showed three Contaminants of Concern in groundwater above Arizona Aquifer Water Quality Standards:

- Tetrachloroethene (PCE)
- Trichloroethene (TCE)
- 1,1-dichloroethene (1,1-DCE)

These contaminants are man-made chemicals, also called chlorinated solvents. PCE and TCE are used to clean grease from metals, and some dry cleaners use PCE to remove stains from clothes. 1,1-DCE is used to make certain plastics and packaging materials. When improperly stored or thrown away, these chemicals can evaporate into the air or travel underground into the soil and groundwater.

What are the potential health risks associated with exposure to site contaminants?

You must be exposed to site contaminants before they can affect your health. Exposure means you swallow, touch, or breathe in something contaminated, like water, soil, or air.

Exposure to site contaminants is unlikely because:

- Groundwater in this area is not currently used for drinking water.
- Contaminated soil is below ground and likely limited to non-residential areas.
- We do not expect contaminants to impact residential indoor air. After we find the contamination source area(s), we will assess this exposure pathway.

Is my drinking water safe?

Yes! If you receive water from the City of Phoenix or Glendale, your drinking water meets federal and state drinking water standards. ADEQ is acting now to protect the site's groundwater for future use.

To learn more about your city's drinking water, visit:

- phoenix.gov/waterservices
- glendaleaz.com/live/city_services/water_services

30 Day COMMENT PERIOD | Aug. 26 to Sept. 27, 2021

ADEQ announces a 30-day comment period on the 51st Avenue and Camelback Road WQARF site scope of work, community involvement plan outline, and fact sheet [A.R.S. §49-287.03(C); §49-289.02; A.A.C. R18-16-403]. To view these documents, visit azdeq.gov/51st-camelback-site-repository. ADEQ may hold a public meeting if significant interest exists. Any person by agreement with ADEQ may develop and implement a work plan for the remedial investigation and the feasibility study; contact Trujillo.Gianna@azdeq.gov [A.A.C. R18-16-403(F)].

Exposure does not necessarily mean you will develop health problems. The risk depends on how much and how often you are exposed to a contaminant, along with your health and family history.

Health studies link long-term PCE and TCE exposure to a higher risk of developing certain cancers. Other health effects are possible, such as memory loss or lack of coordination. Some studies suggest 1,1-DCE exposure may affect the liver, kidneys, and respiratory tract.

To learn about health and the environment, visit:

Arizona Department of Health Services:
azhealth.gov/environmentalhealth |
602-364-3118

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: atsdr.cdc.gov |
800-232-4636

What happens next?

ADEQ will start the Remedial Investigation and form a Community Advisory Board (CAB).

During the investigation, we:

- Define the contamination, where it came from, and how far it has spread in the environment.
- Assess risks to public health and the environment.
- Identify the site's current and future land and water use.

- Collect other needed information to develop cleanup strategies.

The CAB will be a group of community members who meet with ADEQ to:

- Voice community concerns about the site
- Provide feedback on site activities
- Share site updates with the community

How can I learn more?

- Visit our website: azdeq.gov/51st-Camelback
- Join our site mailing list by:
 - going online to sign up
 - mailing the attached form
 - emailing the form to: mcgillcuddy.mary@azdeq.gov

How can I get involved?

Apply to be a CAB member by mailing the attached form or visit

Do you own a well? Contact us!

If you own or operate a private well near the site, please contact ADEQ at 520-628-6709.

GLOSSARY

Aquifer: An underground rock formation that can store groundwater and supply it to wells and springs.

Aquifer Water Quality Standards: Maximum contaminant levels set to protect groundwater in Arizona aquifers for present and future use, including drinking water.

Chlorinated solvent: A chemical product used to dissolve other substances.

Contaminant: A harmful or hazardous substance released into the environment that is not normally there or not naturally occurring.

Contaminant of Concern: A WQARF site contaminant found at a level that may require cleanup action.

Eligibility & Evaluation Score: ADEQ's method to prioritize sites for investigation and cleanup. The score is based on multiple criteria and does not always mean there is a current threat to health.

Exposure Pathway: The way in which a person, species, or environment comes into contact with contamination.

Groundwater: Water beneath the earth's surface in the spaces between soil particles and rock surfaces. In aquifers, groundwater occurs in sufficient quantities to be used for drinking water, irrigation, and other purposes.

SITE MAP | MAPA DEL SITIO

51st Avenue and Camelback Road

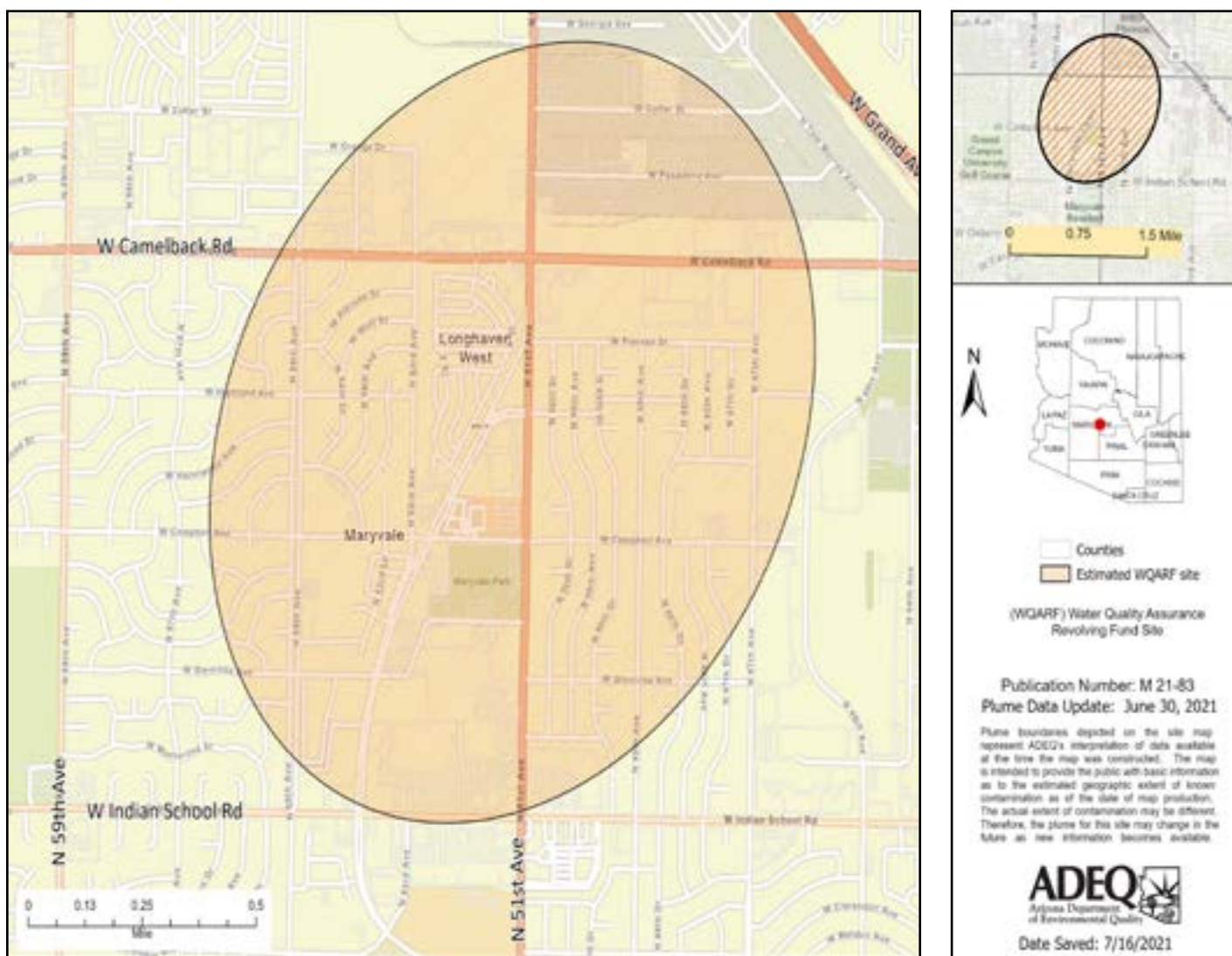


Figure 1

This map shows where ADEQ found groundwater contamination above Arizona Aquifer Water Quality Standards.

For translations or other communications aids, please contact the Title VI Coordinator at Communications@azdeq.gov or 602-771-2215.

Para traducciones y otras ayudas de comunicacion, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo VI al: Communications@azdeq.gov o 602-771-2215.